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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,074	09/29/2003	Alwyn Johannes Voorman	PTT-184 (402852US)	1216

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EXAMINER

TIEU, BINH KIEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2643

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/674,074	VOORMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	BINH K. TIEU	2643	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to multiple dependent claims 7-13 filed under the Preliminary Amendment on 09/29/2003 have been considered. As the results, the previous rejection had been withdrawn.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicants' amendment filed 09/09/2005 was received and entered. As the results, original claims 1-13 were cancelled as requested, new claims 14-26 were also entered. At this point, claims 14-26 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 14-17 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wallenius (US Pat. #: 6,70,417).

Regarding claim 14, Wallenius teaches a service accounting system (i.e., mediator unit 14 as shown in figure 1) comprising at least one service account associated with a user (i.e., a count

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where the mediator unit 14 receives and places a predetermined amount of the money from a prepayment account of billing unit, col.6, lines 10-15), the service account having a classification (i.e., different context events 21 to 25, col.5, lines 3-16), the service accounting system being connected to a main accounting system (i.e., billing unit 15, col.7, lines 54-60) comprising a main account associated with the user (i.e., the prepay account), a predetermined part of the main account being transferable to the service account, and said part of the main account being predetermined through use of the classification (col.6, lines 10-26 and col.6, line 66 through col.7, line 3).

Regarding claim 15, note col.5, line 66 – col.6, line 4.

Regarding claim 16, note col.6, lines 10-16.

Regarding claim 17, note col.6, lines 20-22.

Regarding claim 26, Wallenius teaches a method for use in service accounting system (i.e., mediator unit 14 as shown in figure 1), the system comprising at least one service account associated with a user (i.e., a count where the mediator unit 14 receives and places a predetermined amount of the money from a prepayment account of billing unit, col.6, lines 10-15), the service account having a classification (i.e., different context events 21 to 25, col.5, lines 3-16), the service accounting system being connected to a main accounting system (i.e., billing unit 15) comprising a main account associated with the user (i.e., the prepay account), the method comprising the step of:

determining a part of the main account through use of the classification (i.e., mediator determining amount of money and sending a request for amount to the billing unit); and

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transferring said part of main account to the service account (i.e., the billing unit transferring a predetermined amount of money to the mediator unit so that it subtracts the amount corresponding to the services used by the subscriber, col.6, lines 10-16 and col.6, line 66 through col.7, line 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallenius (US Pat. #: 6,70,417) in view of Hidem et al. (US Pat. #: 5,749,052).

Regarding claim 18, Wallenius teaches all subject matters as claimed above, except that said recharging request is transmitted at a predefined point of time. However, Hidem et al.

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("Hidem") teaches such feature in col.13, line 46 through col.14, line 14, line 67 for a purpose of providing the maximum balance the prepaid account.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of said recharging request is transmitted via an end user request, as taught by Masuda, into view of Wallenius in order to improve the prepaid telecommunications services with convenience of update account for the maximum, to be provided to prepaid subscriber.

7. Claims 19-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallenius (US Pat. #: 6,70,417) in view of Masuda (Pub. No.: US 20030078031).

Regarding claim 19, Wallenius teaches all subject matters as claimed above, except that said recharging request is transmitted via an end user request. However, Masuda teaches such feature in paragraphs [0066] and [0081] for a purpose of balancing the prepaid account.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of said recharging request is transmitted via an end user request, as taught by Masuda, into view of Wallenius in order to improve the prepaid telecommunications services with convenience of update account as required, to be provided to prepaid subscriber.

Regarding claim 20, Masuda further teaches the limitations of the claim in paragraph [0062]

Regarding claims 21-25, Masuda further teaches the limitations of the claims in paragraphs [0059], [0065]-[0066] and [0076]-[0077].

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh K. Tieu whose telephone number is (571) 272-7510 and E-mail address: BINH.TIEU@USPTO.GOV.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Curtis Kuntz, can be reached on (571) 272-7499 and **IF PAPER HAS BEEN MISSED FROM THIS OFFICIAL ACTION PACKAGE, PLEASE CALL Customer Service at (703) 306-0377 FOR THE SUBSTITUTIONS OR COPIES.**

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BINH TIEU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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Date: November 07, 2005